

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2012

**PRESENT** – Councillor Taylor (in the Chair); Councillors Crudass, Curry, Galletley, L. Hughes and E.A. Richmond. (6)

**APOLOGIES** – Councillors Hutchinson, Lister, J. M. Lyonette, J. Vasey and Wright; and Mr. T. Fisher. (6)

**NON-STATUTORY CO-OPTees** – Mr. R. Egan and Mr. D. Moyes. (2)

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE** – Councillor C. Hughes, Cabinet Member with Children and Young People Portfolio; and the Darlo Care Crew representatives.

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE** – Jenni Cooke, Assistant Director, Children, Families and Learning and Andy Whittam, Youth Service Participation Officer.

**CYP20. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

**CYP21. MINUTES** – Submitted - The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2012.

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes be approved as a correct record.

**CYP22. WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2011/12** – Pursuant to Minute CYP8/Sep/11, the Director of Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) to give consideration to the work programme items scheduled by this Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2011/12.

It was also emphasised that the work programme was a rolling programme and any Member of this Scrutiny could request an item to be included provided that a Quad of Aims had been submitted to the Scrutiny Committee prior to ensure that it contributed to the strategic aims of the Council.

Members approved the Terms of Reference for the work in relation to the Annual Assessment of Darlington Children's Services.

The Chair sought Members approval for the inclusion of a piece of work on the work programme on how the various ethnic groups interact with services for children and young people and that a Quad of Aims be forwarded to the Monitoring and Co-ordination Group for their views thereon.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That the work programme be noted.

(b) That the Chair seeks approval from the Monitoring and Co-ordination Group to include the interaction of ethnic groups in the work programme of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

**CYP23. POLICY REVIEW – REVIEW OF PROGRESS OF POLICY REVIEW ITEMS - (1) Corporate Parenting Panel Task and Finish Review Group** – Submitted – The note of the first meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel and Task and Finish Review Group held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2012 (previously circulated), established to examine the role of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

It was proposed at the meeting of the Task and Finish Review Group that it would be beneficial for Members of this Scrutiny Committee to have the opportunity to meet members of the authority's Children and in Care Council, known as the 'Darlo Care Crew' and as such Tom and Sarah attended this meeting to advise Members of their involvement with the Care Council and their work with the Council which included the 21 promises made by the local authority in the 'Darlington Pledge'; involvement with the Corporate Parenting Panel; arrangements for Agenda Days and the plans to produce a DVD as a helpful tool for young people coming in to the Looked After Children system to explain who the Darlo Care Crew area.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That the progress of the Review Group be noted.

(b) That Tom and Sammy be thanked for their attendance at this Scrutiny which Members found very useful and informative.

**(2) Children and Families Early Intervention and Prevention Review – Final Report** – The Director of Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) to present the outcomes and findings of the Review Group established by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to familiarise Members with children and families early intervention and the scrutinise the processes in place, taking into account the Darlington Health Profile 2011 indicators.

**RESOLVED** – That the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee endorse the conclusions and the following recommendations of the Children and Families Early Intervention Review Group :-

- (a) That information sharing is encouraged to support multi-agency working and promote the early identification of problems and issues within families.
- (b) That multi-agency working is further developed and improved, specifically with midwifery and health visiting, at the pre and post natal times.
- (c) That a report is presented to Scrutiny in six months on this area of work with a focus on the Common Assessment Framework and impact on specialist services.